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# CAPITOL CONNECTION

A Weekly Update of News and Views  
For Opinion Shapers and Policy Makers

**Congressman Gary G. Miller**  
**42<sup>nd</sup> District, California**



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November 9, 2007

## **Congress Passes Water Bill Over President's Veto**

On Wednesday, Congressman Miller joined an overwhelming majority of the House in voting to override the President's veto of the Water Resources Development Act. This bill, which contains a number of crucial projects to improve water infrastructure in Southern California, became law the following day when the Senate likewise voted to override the President's veto. As a member of the House Water Resources Subcommittee, Congressman Miller has been heavily involved in crafting this legislation. The bill, which was more than six years in the making, authorizes \$35 million for water-related infrastructure projects in the 42nd District.

## **SAVE Act Introduced with Strong Bipartisan Support**

Congressman Miller this week joined a bipartisan group of nearly 90 lawmakers in introducing the Secure America through Verification and Enforcement (SAVE) Act to strengthen border security and dramatically improve interior enforcement. The SAVE Act would increase the size of the Border Patrol, employ more interior enforcement officers, and expand detention capacity. Crucially, the bill also cracks down on the hiring of illegal aliens by making participation in an electronic verification program mandatory. This important provision provides employers with an inexpensive, quick, and accurate way to verify worker eligibility. Congressman Miller is proud to serve as an original cosponsor of this commonsense proposal. He will continue working aggressively with his colleagues in the Immigration Reform Caucus to close our porous borders and remove the financial incentives for illegal aliens to remain in the United States in violation of our country's laws.

## **Funding for Department of Defense Finally Approved**

After months of delay, the House on Thursday finally voted to send legislation funding our nation's defense priorities to the President for his signature. Included in the bill is \$500 million in emergency funding for the fire ravaged areas of Southern California. These funds will go toward rehabilitating and restoring lands destroyed by the fires with the goal of preventing devastating mudslides during the rainy season. Congressman Miller supported this measure which funds the ongoing operations of the Department of Defense for the coming year to ensure our troops in harm's way receive the support they need.

## **House Votes to Improve Servicemember Benefits**

Congressman Miller joined his colleagues this week in voting for legislation to raise basic pay of enlisted servicemen and women, protect the credit of deployed servicemembers, and extend tax relief to those with family members serving overseas. He is also working with his colleagues to send a veterans funding package to the President as soon as possible. With Veterans Day approaching this Sunday, it is important to remember all those in uniform who have made and continue to make sacrifices on our nation's behalf.

## **Congressman Miller to Host Service Academy Night**

Interested in attending one of our nation's military colleges? Join Congressman Miller for a Service Academy Night on Monday, November 26 at 6:30 P.M. in the Saddleback Room at Mission Viejo City Hall. Representatives from the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, and U.S. Coast Guard Academy will be present to provide information and answer questions about the application and admissions process. This event gives students, parents, and counselors the opportunity to learn about and speak with representatives from the five Service Academies. To R.S.V.P. or request more information about attending a U.S. Service Academy, please call the Service Academy Coordinator at (714) 257-1142.